

Piperazine Melanocortin-Specific Compounds

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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Melanocortin receptor-specific piperazine or ketopiperazine compounds having the structure:



- 10 and stereoisomer and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, where X is CH₂ or C=O, R₁, R₂, and R₃ are as described in the specification, preferably where R₃ is a D-amino acid with at least one substituted or unsubstituted phenyl or naphthyl aromatic ring, and where R₃ optionally further includes an amine capping group, a second amino acid residue or a second amino acid residue with an amine capping group, which compounds are agonists, antagonists or mixed agonists and antagonists at one or more
- 15 melanocortin receptors, and having utility in the treatment of melanocortin receptor-related disorders and conditions. Methods of synthesis of compounds of structure (I), pharmaceutical compositions containing a compound of structure (I) and methods relating to the use thereof are also disclosed.